

Treasury Department,

Bureau of the Mint,

Washington, D. C., February 7, 1899

S. Jones, Esq.,

1312 27th Street,

Des Moines, Iowa.

Sir:

The following is respectfully submitted in reply to the inquiries contained in your letter of the 26th ultimo:

- 1st. The cost of one pound of one-cent bronze blanks is .1894¢ per pound avoirdupois, and will coin \$1.46 .
The cost of five-cent nickel blanks is .3194 per pound , and will coin \$4.44
- 2nd. Silver is being added to the circulation to the extent of the seigniorage on the coinage of silver dollars for each month . The coinage of the same from July 1, to December 31 1898 was \$8,248,335., upon which the seigniorage was \$2,508,912.
- 3rd. The coinage of gold is free . I have sent you by mail , a copy of Department Circular No. 143, in which you will find full explanation of the coinage of gold and silver.

Respectfully yours,

A. H. Butler
Acting Director of the Mint.

S.